

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 MCT-01 TRSE-00 /064 W

-----072196 252217Z /73

P 252150Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 687

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ASUNCION 3033

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SHUM, PA

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT DETAINS ADDITIONAL POLITICAL PRISONERS

1. GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES REPORTEDLY DETAINED APPROXIMATELY 15 PERSONS JULY 21. THREE OF THE DETAINEES HAVE SINCE BEEN RELEASED INCLUDING DR. DOMINGO RIVAROLA, PRESIDENT OF THE PARAGUAYAN CENTER OF SOCIAL STUDIES WHICH HAS BEEN AN AID CONTRACTOR ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS.

2. ALTHOUGH DIFFERENT SOURCES AGREE ON THE NAMES AND NUMBER OF DETAINEES, NO ONE SO FAR HAS COME UP WITH A CREDIBLE REASON FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S ACTION. A NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT, QUOTING "HIGH GOVERNMENT SOURCES" AND STATING THAT AT LEAST SOME OF THE DETAINEES WERE IMPLICATED IN AN ATTEMPT TO REVIVE THE TERRORIST ORGANIZACION POLITICO-MILITAR (OPM) WHICH WAS UNCOVERED IN APRIL, 1976, IS HARD TO BELIEVE.

3. SEVERAL OF THE CURRENT DETAINEES ARE CONNECTED WITH A QUARTERLY CULTURAL PUBLICATION NAMED "CRITERIO." HOWEVER, THERE IS NO OTHER APPARENT CONNECTION BETWEEN THE ARRESTS AND THE PUBLICATION. ITS CONTENTS ARE NOT OVERLY CONTROVERSIAL -- CERTAINLY NOT AS CONTROVERIAL
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AS WHAT HAS APPEARED IN THE CHURCH'S WEEKLY "SENDERO" OR THE OPPOSITION PARTIES' "EL RADICAL" AND "EL PUEBLO." SOME DETAINEES ARE CONNECTED WITH A STUDENT GROUP IN THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE, LEADING THE LATTER TO DECLARE THEMSELVES IN "PERMANENT SESSION." AFTER INITIAL NEWS REPORTS OF THESE EVENTS ON JULY 23, THE MEDIAL HAVE PROVIDED NO FURTHER DETAILS.

4. EMBASSY AIRPOUCHING LIST OF DETAINEES TO THE
DEPARTMENT, AS WELL AS ANY ADDITIONAL PERTINENT INFORMATION
IT OBTAINS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION, POLITICAL PRISONERS, OPPOSITION PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ASUNCIO3033
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770265-0188
Format: TEL
From: ASUNCION
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770725/aaaaauuf.tel
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 1764707
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOVERNMENT DETAINS ADDITIONAL POLITICAL PRISONERS
TAGS: SHUM, PINS, PA
To: STATE
Type: TE
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